FREE GRATIS

TRI-LINGUAL

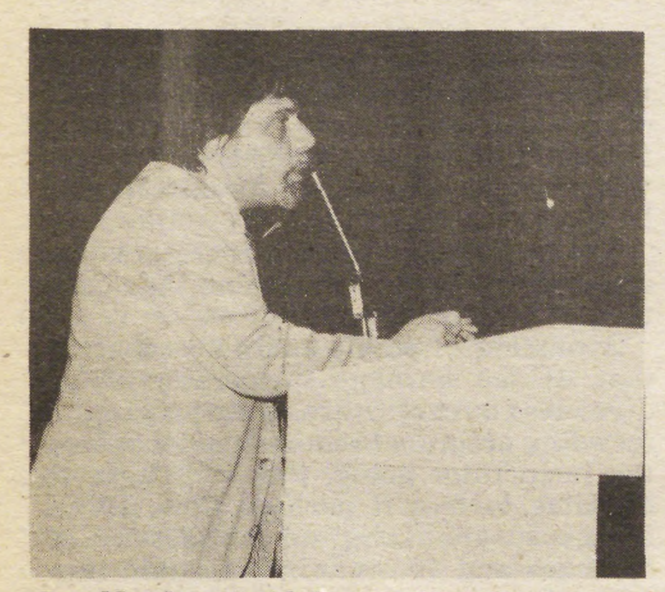
IRONBOUND VOICES

Vol. 7 No. 8 January 1985

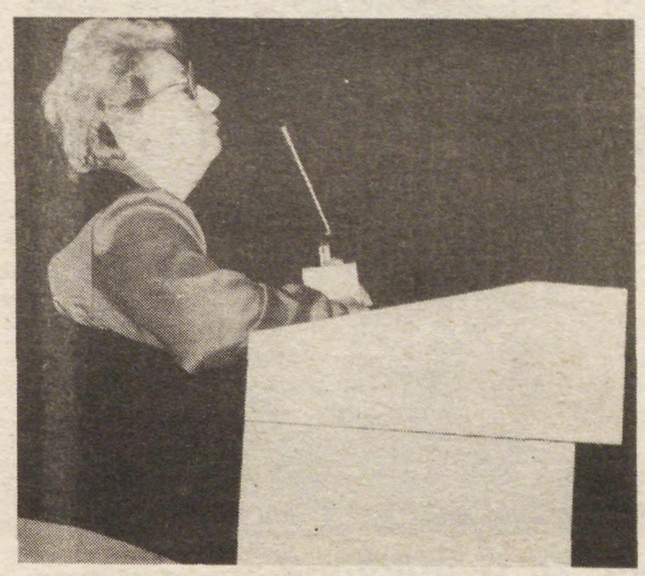


1000 People Say No Garbage Incinerator!

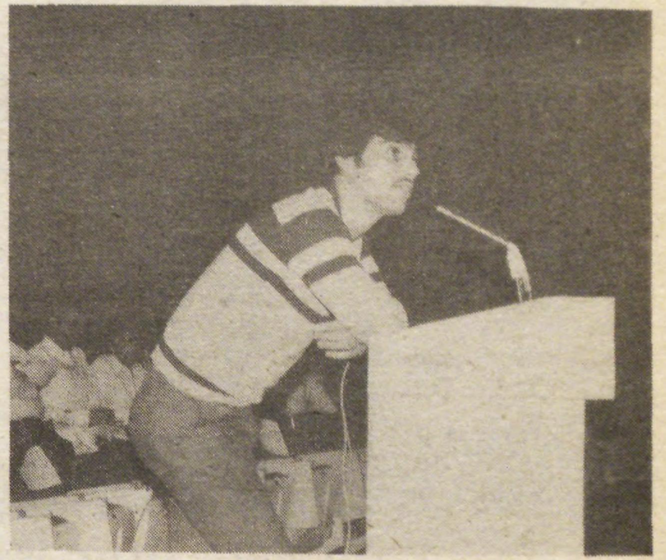
Ironbound Stands Up!



Joe Nardone told State officials that the DEP has still not cleaned up the dangerous toxic chemicals on Thomas St.



June Kruszewski speaks against the garbage incinerator at the hearing on December 18.



Antonio Almeida asks the DEP whose environment they are protecting at the hearing at Essex County College.

More than 1000 Ironbound residents said **NO GARBAGE INCINERATOR** when they attended public hearings Dec. 17 and 18 at Essex County College. Garbage incinerators damage peoples' health because of the toxic chemicals, including dioxin, which comes out of the smokestack. Government officials have spent 2 years and hundreds of thousands of dollars trying to convince Ironbound residents that the incinerator is safe.

But Nancy Zak spoke for everyone present when she said, "We won't be fooled anymore. We already have dioxin in our streets and we don't want any more."

So many people wanted to speak against the incinerator that the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) was forced to hold a second hearing the next night.

"The DEP is supposed to protect the environment, but whose environment are they protecting?" said Antonio Almeida. "It seems that they are protecting the environment of rich people like you, but not of the working people like us."

"We are still waiting for the dioxin that we already have in Ironbound to be cleaned up," said June Kruszewski. "We wanted health tests done for our residents. Officials tell us that dioxin won't kill you. Well dioxin won't kill you right away, but it will promote cancer, especially in combination with other chemicals."

Ironbound residents won a battle when they forced the DEP to allow ordinary working people equal time to speak. State officials had told members of the **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste (ICATW)** that everyone would have the same amount of time to speak. But when the hearing began, Mr. Marwan Sadat, the chairperson, announced that public officials and others who supported the garbage incinerator, including the company that wants to build it, would be allowed to speak for 10 minutes. Everyone else would have only 5 minutes.

A number of angry Ironbound residents spoke out against this unfair time limit. When Bob Cartwright continued to speak after his 5 minutes were up, State officials called the police and threatened to have him arrested. The Ironbound crowd rose to their feet shouting in protest. State officials then changed their mind, and the time limit was taken off so people could say what they wanted to say.

Another example of the unfairness of the hearing was that State officials allowed a banner in favor of the garbage incinerator to be hung up by someone from Essex County, the government agency that wants to build the incinerator. The banner hung on the wall all during the supposedly "neutral" public hearing (until an angry Ironbound resident pulled it down).

Ironbound residents also forced the DEP to hold a second hearing so everyone could speak. **ICATW** had told State officials that many working people would be at the hearing, and that it would not be possible or fair to make people stay until midnight or 2 A.M. in the morning. **ICATW** asked that another evening hearing be scheduled after the Christmas holidays. But Mr. Sadat said the hearing would keep going all night. One speaker was scheduled for 2:15 in the morning!

When Ironbound residents protested, Mr. Sadat tried to schedule the hearing for the next morning.

"Most of us are working people," said Bob Cartwright, from **ICATW**. "We can't get paid to come up here and speak during the day like the public officials and consultants you had speaking in support of the garbage incinerator." When the large crowd shouted its support for Mr. Cartwright, State officials agreed to hold another hearing the next night.

In his speech, Mr. Cartwright said that garbage incinerators are being closed in European countries because they cause so much pollution, and give off dioxin. "One incinerator in Hamburg, West Germany, was found to give off 700 more times the dioxin than the safe limit. You want to put this incinerator in the neighborhood which already has the highest levels of dioxin in the world, the highest levels of cancer and heart disease, and high levels of lead poisoning. We say we've had enough!"

The concern about dioxin which will come out of the smokestack and the health danger it represents was supported by testimony by independent scientists. Karen Shapiro, who works with Dr. Barry Commoner at Queens College in New York, said, "There are no known methods of preventing PCDD and PCDF emissions from mass burn incinerators." PCDD and PCDF are scientific abbreviations for dioxin.

Dr. James Hilbert said that based on test results from other incinerators, there could be 17,500 times more dioxin given off than the Port Authority estimates.

"Putting a garbage incinerator here, would add to the health problems we already have," said Beatrice Speciale, a teacher in Ironbound.

Members of other community organizations who are fighting garbage incinerators around the state supported the Ironbound residents.

Audrey Mantel, a member of **IRATE**, a group from East Brunswick, said there are no state regulations for how much dioxin an incinerator can put into the air. She distributed a newspaper article about a garbage incinerator in Westchester, New York. After the incinerator was built, state officials found out that it could not meet the pollution guidelines. So they changed the guidelines! The state official who was responsible for changing the guidelines later got a job with the garbage incinerator company.

"We Won't Be Dumped On!"

Eleanor Podlas, an Ironbound resident whose home is less than 300 yards from the place where Essex County wants to build the incinerator said, "How can you assure us that it will be safe? Three Mile Island nuclear plant was considered 'safe' when it was built." Miss Podlas said people are already getting sick from terrible chemical smells and truck traffic.

continued on page 2

Garbage Incinerator Explodes - Kills 3

A garbage incinerator in Akron, Ohio, exploded during December. Three workers were killed and seven were injured.

The garbage incinerator had many previous explosions, resulting in injuries, since it opened in September 1979.

It is suspected that the explosion was caused by a truck load of sawdust mixed with toxic chemicals that came from New Jersey.

The garbage incinerator in Akron was losing money. City, state and federal officials were planning to pay $36 million to bail it out of financial debt.

A Big Speech From A Little Girl

The following speech was given by 9 year old Lisa Rego at the public hearing about the garbage incinerator Dec. 18:

I am Lisa Rego from the Ironbound district. I am here to stand up for the rights of my community because the incinerator could be harmful to our health. I am saying this because I don't want to see little children growing up with poor health instead of good health. And we people of Ironbound do not want to be used as guinea pigs. And so I say we do not want an incinerator built in our community.



No More Toxic Waste In Ironbound!

On November 8, Ironbound residents held a demonstration to protest the opening of a new chemical plant, Mobay Chemicals, in the Ironbound. Ironbound residents were waiting for Governor Kean's arrival so they could ask him when he was going to order a real clean up of the dioxin and dangerous chemicals already in the Ironbound.

No Garbage Incinerator!

More than 700 Ironbound residents attended a meeting Nov. 27 at Our Lady of Fatima Church to show their opposition to a proposal to build a garbage incinerator in Ironbound.

People applauded as members of the **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste**, scientists and local elected officials spoke out against the garbage incinerator.

Karen Shapiro, a research associate of Dr. Barry Commoner from the Center for Biology and Natural Systems at Queens College, said, "There is no known way of controlling dioxin from an incinerator. The only way to control it is not to build it in the first place."

Ms. Shapiro said that all the engineering devices which are supposed to remove the dioxin before it goes out the smokestack do not work. Tests done at existing garbage incinerators show that dioxin is coming out of the smokestacks.

This is especially dangerous for Ironbound residents because when it combines with other cancer causing chemicals, dioxin can attack the immune system (the body's system to protect itself from disease). When this happens, other chemicals that people are exposed to are more likely to cause cancer. Ironbound already has many cancer causing chemicals in the air.

"I can't believe that on top of all the environmental problems already in this neighborhood, they want to put an incinerator in your backyard," Ms. Shapiro said. "It makes no sense whatsoever."

Robert Cartwright, from **ICATW**, said that in addition to the health risks, the construction of a garbage incinerator will create problems for traffic on the New Jersey Turnpike, and for planes coming into Newark International Airport. Mr. Cartwright said the Turnpike Authority is concerned that acid gases coming out of the incinerator smokestack could damage the elevated highway supports. Clouds of smoke from the incinerator could obstruct the view of pilots during landings.

"All the facts show that there should be no incinerator in the Ironbound," Mr. Cartwright said.

Councilmen Henry Martinez and Anthony Carrino, and Diane Turco representing Councilwoman Marie Villani, spoke at the meeting against the incinerator. "We've got to tell the Governor, the county, and the mayor, you're not going to dump on us anymore," Councilman Martinez said.

Assemblyman Willie Brown sent a telegram expressing his opposition to the incinerator.

Ironbound Not Alone

Ironbound residents were joined by community organizations from around the state who are fighting garbage incinerators at a press conference held Dec. 4.

Madelyn Hoffman from ***SMOKE*** (Statewide Movement Opposed to Killer Environments) said they began to fight garbage incinerators 3 years ago. She said that in addition to producing pollution, garbage incinerators will not mean landfills will be eliminated because certain types of garbage cannot be burned

"Once we build this incinerator, we will have to supply it with garbage for the next 40 years, so there won't be any incentive to start recycling," Ms. Hoffman said.

Ms. Hoffman pointed out that in towns where people have had a chance to vote about whether a garbage incinerator should be built - Manville and East Brunswick - people have voted against it.

Dr. James Hilbert, a scientist from Rockaway Township and a ***SMOKE*** member, said that all incinerators which have been tested show dioxin coming out of the smokestack. He said composting alone could take care of over 30% of our garbage, and that in one town which is using composting and recycling, over 93% of the population is helping. Dr. Hilbert said, "There are alternatives and they should be tried before we build something as risky as these garbage incinerators."

Mr. Ed Purzycki from Manville, said that his group was against building an incinerator in Manville, because of the danger from the dioxin which will be given off. "Look at what happened to us in Manville," he said. "Out of 12,000 residents, 2000 already have lung damage because of asbestiosis. Years ago, the Johns Manville Corporation told us that asbestos was safe. But it isn't Now we know it was dangerous. But it is too late for our people. Now people are ignoring the danger of the dioxin which these incinerators will give off. Dioxin in combination with other dangerous chemicals is suicidal."

Incinerator Hearing cont.

One speaker pointed out that according to the State's own figures there will be 3000 trucks a week, 6 days a week coming through Ironbound to dump their garbage. "That's 1 truck a minute," he said. It could be more.

The proposed garbage incinerator is one of the biggest ever built - more than 2200 tons of garbage a day.

A number of people said that construction of the garbage incinerator would discourage the State from trying a recycling program because in order to keep the incinerator going, they will have to continue to feed it garbage. Rev. David Burgess, speaking on behalf of 50 churches and 20 organizations said they opposed construction of a garbage incinerator because it "endangers the lives of Newark residents" and supported a mandatory recycling program instead.

Rev. Burgess said Ironbound residents "have reason to be alarmed. Nothing has been done by DEP officials about other dangerous situations in Ironbound like the Thomas St. warehouse which continues to be filled with dangerous toxic chemicals, and yet these same officials expect us to trust them now. The Thomas St. warehouse is inches away from peoples' homes. We have no desire to become another Bhopal, India here in America."

Charles Lee, speaking on behalf of the 1.7 million members of the United Church of Christ, said, "We do not think it to be an accident that the most contaminated areas in New Jersey happen to occur in the poorest or predominantly minority areas. What is the logic of building a giant incinerator which will burn 2200 tons a day less than half a mile from 2 housing projects? What is the logic of building a facility which could potentially put tons of dioxins, hydrochloric acid and heavy metals into an area already suffering high rates of cancer and other health effects of toxic chemicals?"

Mario Pinto, representing the Portuguese American Congress, said, "They want to put the garbage incinerator here because they expected the least amount of resistence from its residents. But we can no longer tolerate being dumped on and putting the welfare of our children in jeopardy every day."

Councilman Henry Martinez and Essex County Freeholder Parlavecchio spoke out against the garbage incinerator.

Joseph Nardone, who lives behind the Thomas St. warehouse, criticized the DEP for its failure to clean up the chemicals there. "The DEP is not protecting the people of our area now," he said.

Cillia Pedro, said, "I have gone through a number of surgeries caused by the environment. With the chemicals we already have, the environment is literally killing me. My daughter asked me 'Mommy why do they want to kill us?' "

Jose Cunha said, "The Port Authority is manipulating the City of Newark. The Port Authority has already broken its promises to us. Three years ago, they were supposed to sound proof St. Benedict's School, and it still isn't done."

Katherine Dresdner pointed out that the company which wants to build the incinerator has a history of causing environmental problems around the country.

Dennis Cabadas summarized the feelings of many Ironbound residents when he said, "We've got to fight for our life and our family's health. We don't want to be forced to leave our neighborhood, the neighborhood we have built with our sweat and our tears."

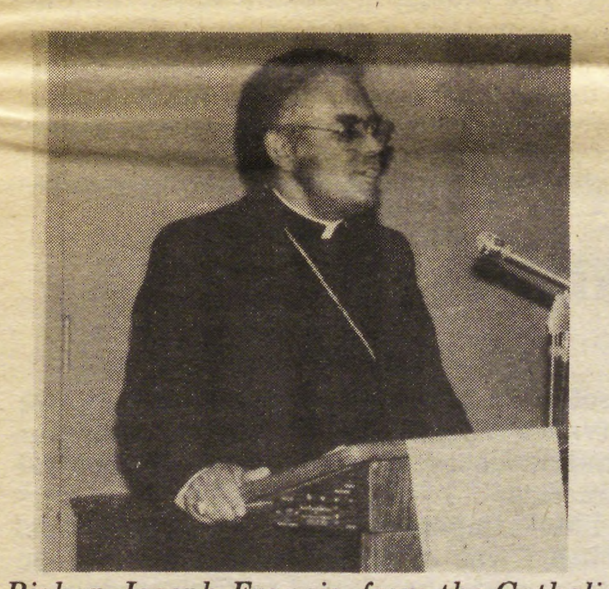
Signs of Hope Conference: New Unity For Action

More than 200 people from urban and suburban Essex county participated in the ***Signs of Hope Conference*** held at Bethany Baptist Church on Nov. 16 and 17. The Conference was organized by the Metropolitan Ecumenical Ministry, and cosponsored by many major religious denominations and community organizations in Essex County.

Forty-five local churches, representing 14 different religious groups, including Jewish, Protestant, and Roman Catholic Parishes, attended. 40 community organizations also participated.

Father Jack Maloney from St. Patrick's ProCathedral in Newark, the conference chairperson, talked about the goals of the ***Conference*** in his opening remarks on Friday evening:

"If we can come together, urban and suburban, black, brown and white, and address the issues together, we can let people know that the Churches are interested in facing the real life problems people face day to day. We believe that we can discover a common mission. We believe that we can insure more frequent and better communication among our laity, our clergy and our concerned citizens of Essex County. We believe we can develop joint strategies so that we can witness to the gospel and act on gospel values. We believe we can begin new programs, and provide leadership in these mutually relevant concerns. We believe that we can share a vision, dialogue on that vision, and live out that vision."



*Bishop Joseph Francis, from the Catholic Archdiocese of Newark, speaks at the **Signs of Hope Conference.***

Rev. Ben Chavis from the United Church of Christ Commission on Racial Justice addressed the ***Conference*** on Friday evening.

"You can't respond to the gospel without being active," he said. "In Essex County we have extreme wealth on the one hand, and extreme poverty on the other. We have people locked out of the decision making process. We have a country that is stratified by race and by class."

"It is not going to change overnight, but we have the opportunity to channel our energy in a positive way. We have a lot of rainbow organizing to do, but the signs of hope are right in this room. For black and white, poor and rich, urban and suburban to get together in this room is a real sign of hope."

Workshops were held on Friday and Saturday dealing with four important issues: toxic waste, housing, unemployment and jobs. A planning committee for each issue met for several months before the ***Conference*** to develop position papers and an agenda for their workshop meeting.

The toxic waste workshop heard testimony from a number of groups and scientists who are dealing with the pollution of communities by toxic chemicals. The workshop passed resolutions on the garbage incinerator, pesticide use and other issues.

The housing workshop discussed the need for strong protection against skyrocketing rents which people can't afford, and the need for more affordable housing to be built, as well as alternatives like tenant ownership.

The education workshop dealt with issues like parent eduation and involvement.

The unemployment workshop discussed how churches might be effective in getting more jobs and job training programs.

At a meeting of the whole ***Conference*** on Saturday afternoon, each workshop discussed its resolutions, and each group announced its plans to meet again.

"We see this as a very exciting beginning," said David Robinson, one of the organizers of the ***Signs of Hope Conference.*** "This is the start of an ongoing network, and these task force groups will continue to meet and to act on the issues."

Bishop Francis returned from the meeting of the Catholic bishops in Washington, D.C. about the pastoral letter on economics in time to speak at the ***Conference*** on Saturday. He shared two of the main ideas of the new pastoral letter:



*Father Jack Maloney from St. Patrick's Pro-Cathedral in Newark, chairperson for the **Signs of Hope Conference.***

"The theme of human dignity is central to Christian thought. When we look at our economic system, we have to ask ourselves what does it do FOR people, and what does it do TO people."

"Creation is a gift from God, and men and women must be faithful stewards in caring for this creation. We must be ready for confrontation with sinful structures that institutionalize injustice."

Mayor Bernard Sanders from Burlington, Vermont, Mrs. Doris Wilson from Church Women United, Rev. William Howard from the Reformed Church of Christ, and Dr. Charles Cobb from United Church of Christ Commission on Racial Justice also addressed the ***conference.***

Ecumenical services ended each day of the ***Conference.***

Dr. Cobb summarized the feelings of many of the people who attended when he said, "There is no greater sign of hope than the coalition that has brought together these 2 days of sharing. When white and black can join in a common cause, and when a group like this can set a common goal, surely, surely, this is a sign of hope."

For additional information, contact Rev. David Robinson, at 623-9259.

Church Conference Passes Resolution Against Incinerator

The fight of Ironbound residents against the construction of a huge garbage incinerator in their neighborhood received strong support from an ecumenical Church conference held recently in Newark.

The resolution against the garbage incinerator passed by the ***Signs of Hope Conference*** reads:

As residents of Essex County and members of its various churches and community organizations, acknowledging the research done by independent environmental scientists and community groups, that carefully considers the potential dangers and impact of the garbage incinerator proposed for the Ironbound section of Newark on top of already abnormally high levels of pollutants in the Newark environment, and recognizing the work of the **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste** to oppose this incinerator, we firmly resolve:

1. To oppose the construction of a garbage incinerator at the Ironbound site or any other similarly unsuitable site in the county, and
2. propose that instead the County develop a comprehensive county-wide recycling program to handle the bulk of Essex County's solid waste products

thereby elminating the need for a garbage incinerator and protecting all our residents' health, our earth, and the quality of life in our county and beyond its borders, as air pollution from this facility will not respect local boundaries.

FREE

Blood Pressure Tests

Ironbound Information Center
95 Fleming Ave.
12:30 - 2:30 P.M.

January 15
February 19
March 19
April 16
May 21
June 18

Provided by Community Health Care of North Jersey, Inc. in cooperation with Ironbound Community Health Project. Call 589-4668 for more information.

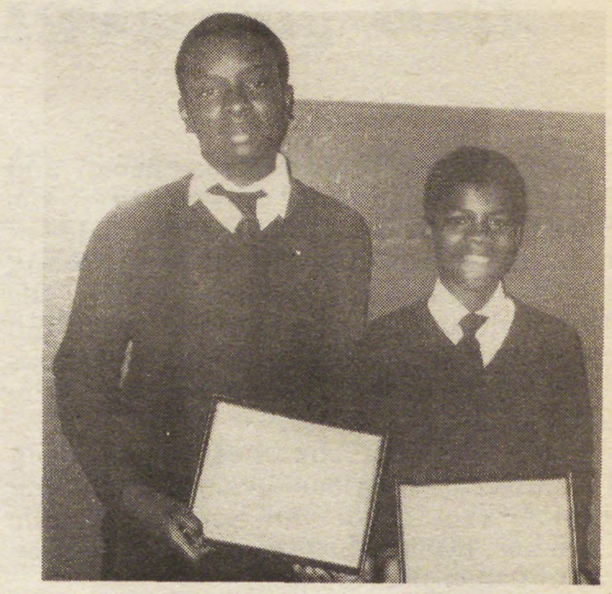
Congratulations!

to Jeffrey Dodson, graduate of the Ironbound Community School, on his accomplishments with the Science High School debating team. The team recently competed in a contest at Princeton University!

Working For Peace


One of the winners from the ***Peace Poster Contest*** *was Eddie Wingren from the Ironbound Community School.*


Angelina Lluminquinga from Ironbound Interparochial Elementary School accepts her prize.


Darrell Lyon (left) and Corey Mincey (right) from Blessed Sacrament School drew winning peace posters.

"If we put as much energy and money into peace as we do into war what a wonderful world this would be."

Sister Carla Barr, Director of Hispanic Concerns for the Archdiocese of Newark, was speaking to a group of 30 teachers at a workshop sponsored by the ***Ironbound Peace Education Project (IPEP). Teaching Peace*** was held Nov. 13 at St. Vincent's Academy.

"Do you know that it is easier for our young people to enlist in the army than it is for them to register to vote? It is easier to join the army than it is to get a loan for education. Why?"

Teachers could attend one of four resource workshops, to learn more about resources available to them for classroom use. Sister Carla and Jan Thompson, a teacher at Independence High School, led a discussion on Central America. Mark Jackson, a teacher from St. Benedict's Prep, led a workshop on the Arms Build Up. Sister Noreen Leary, from St. Vincent's, shared resources on World Hunger. Sister Trudy Dunham from Project Link and Connie Kloonan, led an elementary school idea sharing session.

Peace On Earth Spaghetti Dinner

The ***Ironbound Peace Education Project (IPEP)*** also held a **Peace on Earth Spaghetti Dinner** on November 30 at Trinity Reformed Church. 75 people attended.

Prizes were awarded to elementary school students who participated in the ***Peace Poster Contest*** this fall. The winning students were:

Luis Mendoza and **Eddie Wingren** from the Ironbound Community School

Carmen Barnes and **Keisha Bethea** from Project Link

Darrell Lyon, Celeste Simmons, and **Corey Mincey** from Blessed Sacrament

John Rojo, Edward Alvarez, Helena Vinhas, Shakira Ferrell, Angelica Lluminquinga, Thomas Padovano, Luis Oliveira and **Kenya Reed** from Ironbound Interparochial Elementary School

Vic De Luca from the **Ironbound Community Corporation** spoke about the rising military budget and the negative effect that has on our community. David Nieves led everyone in singing *"Let There Be Peace on Earth and let it Begin with Me".*

IPEP wishes to thank Roni Faulkner, Marie McErlean, Jon Dolberg, and John Dillon for their help. Also thank you to Rev. Lin Powell and the congregation at Trintiy Reformed Church. And thank you to Texeira's Bakery for the beautiful cake. It was an enjoyable evening for everyone.

300 Attend Memorial Service For Slain Churchwomen

On Tuesday, Dec. 4, three hundred people attended a memorial service for 4 American Churchwomen murdered by government troops in El Salvador in 1981.

The memorial service was organized by the Northern New Jersey Interreligious Task Force on El Salvador and Central America.

The service began with the lighting of 5 candles - one for each of the 4 Church women and one for Archbishop Oscar Romero, who was shot by El Salvadoran soldiers while saying Mass.

Rev. William Sloane Coffin from Riverside Church in New York City was one of the speakers. "Instead of helping Central America toward peace, the United States is pushing Central America toward war," he said. "What can we do? The first thing is to speak the truth. It is wrong to call weapons that are used to wipe out entire populations 'peacekeepers'. It is wrong to call murderers and rapists 'freedom fighters,' as the Reagan administration does in Nicaragua. It is wrong to believe that the United States is always right, and other countries are always wrong, forgetting that this country was founded in the blood of 10 million Indians, and developed in the sweat of 40 million slaves."

"The second thing is to continue to be hopeful. If we are to be loyal to the memory of these women we must believe in the possibility for change, knowing that that is the only way that change will come. Their lives continue in ours. We must make certain that hope never dies."

Father Henry Atkins, from St. Michael's Chapel at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, also spoke. Both Riverside Church and St. Michael's Chapel, have become places of public sanctuary for refugees from El Salvador and Guatemala (see last issue of ***Ironbound Voices***). The collection from the memorial service will be used to help these refugees.

Father Atkins, who lived in a refugee camp in Honduras with El Salvadoran people for several years, reminded those present that not only the 4 Churchwomen, but "50,000 civilians have been killed in El Salvador. They were not killed in combat. These men, women and children were tortured to death, or kidnapped and murdered."

"One fifth of the population of El Salvador has become a wandering population. Hundreds of thousands have left to come to this country, only to be deported to El Salvador, where they are killed, tortured or imprisoned." (The United States refuses to recognize refugees from El Salvador as 'political' refugees and to grant them visas).

"There is nothing different in El Salvador because of the election of Duarte. He is a fundraiser for President Reagan."

On the other hand, the one country in Central America which **was** attempting to feed its hungry people, house those who need homes, teach its people to read, and take care of their health - Nicaragua - is being attacked by the United States."

"As Christians, we must be ready to protest in the streets if the United States invades Nicaragua. We must open our church doors to refugees from Central America."

"Most important, we must not lose hope. When I was in El Salvador, I found hope there, where I expected to find despair. A mother who had lost her son in the fighting told me 'The blood my son shed is like water dropping on the ground that brings the flower of a new society.' "

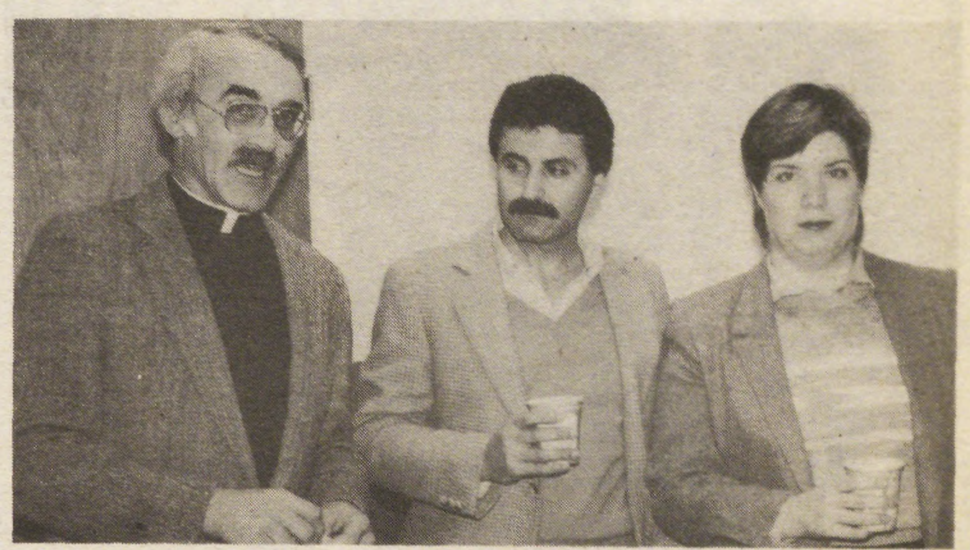
Bill Ford, the brother of Sister Ita Ford, one of the murdered Church women., told about his visit to El Salvador last April. "36 hours before the world knew about the murder of my sister, the government troops in El Salvador came to the Church where she lived, and stripped her room empty of all her possessions." Mr. Ford said that the El Salvadoran government troops are wearing uniforms made in the United States, using equipment and dropping bombs made in the United States. He visited a refugee camp and spoke with the survivors - including old people, men, women, and children - of an attack with white phospherous bombs, produced in the United States.

"Each of these women believed that an individual **can** make a difference. You and I **can** make a difference. The only question is ***will we?***" He urged people to contact their Senators and Congressional representatives to oppose aid for the "contras" in Nicaragua, which will be voted on again in Congress in March of 1985.

Ecumenical Association Holds 6th Annual Service



The 6th Annual Ecumenical Service was held at Our Lady of Fatima Church. Among those who joined in the service were: (left to right) Sister Eleanor Harker, Father Zaccardo, Barbara Hetzel, Father Nicholas Yuschak, Rev. Lin Powell, Rev. David Burgess, Rev. Karen Fritz, and Rev. John Faustini.



Several hundred people attended the beautiful service. The choir from East Side High School sang, along with choirs from Our Lady of Fatima, St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, and the Russian Liturgical Singers. Above, Father Pinho talks with people at the reception after the service.

Residents Organize To Improve Their Home

The Tenants Association at the Aspen Riverpark Apartments on Fleming Ave. is organizing to solve some of the problems in the building.

The Aspen Riverpark Apartments opened in the winter of 1981. The Aspen Company fixed up the apartments using money from the federal government. The company did not care about building good housing for the people to live in. Their goal was to make money. They used the cheapest materials they could - and now the tenants are suffering.

Since the very first winter the tenants moved in, there have been problems with no heat and no hot water. Aspen put in used boilers that don't work well. At recent tenant meetings, some people said they had no heat or hot water at various times in the last month. Some said they had no heat every weekend.

There are other problems too.

In one section of the building, there is no lock on the stairway door, so people who do not live in the building are able to get in. "It's just not safe for us or our families," said Eugenia Sanchez. "We want a good lock on that door. We don't want to have to worry about who is in the building. This is our home and we want it to be safe."

Buzzer systems (intercoms) are not working in certain sections of the buildings, so people do not know if a visitor or a criminal is trying to get in.

Residents are concerned about security in the building. Some said they had not seen the security guards patrolling their section, and that the guards did not respond when they called. But residents also know that in some situations the local police must be called. The Tenants Association plans to meet with the precinct captain soon.

Some residents have serious plumbing leaks, which threaten to damage their furniture and apartments. This kind of structural problem could also be due to poor construction.

Changes in Rent Control Law May Hurt Tenants

"We are concerned because some of the changes that the City Council is thinking of making in the Rent Control Law would result in rent increases. People in Newark are paying very high rents. Some people cannot afford to pay more. Where will these people go when they can't pay these high rents?" said Frank Hutchins from the ***Coalition To Save Rent Control*** in Newark.

The City Council is considering making buildings with 4 apartments where the owner lives in the building, exempt from rent control. This means that the landlord could give tenants in these buildings whatever rent increase he or she wants. (With rent control, the landlord can only raise the rent 6% a year).

Another proposal the City Council is considering would allow landlords to raise the rents 50% in vacant apartments, after they do $1000 worth of work on the apartment. "This is **vacancy decontrol** in another form," said Mr. Hutchins. "It will encourage landlords not to maintain their apartments, so tenants will move out, and they can increase the rents by 50%."

Tenants in Newark pay one of the highest annual rent increases in the State - 6%. If a landlord's taxes or utilities costs increase, that is paid by the tenants too. (These are called "surcharges"). If the landlord is losing money, he or she applies to the Rent Control Board for a hardship increase. In the last 2 years, landlords who applied for a hardship increase got an average of a 25% rent increase. For a tenant paying $300, this means the new rent would be $375. For a tenant paying $400, the new rent would be $500 a month.

The ***Coalition To Save Rent Control*** has made some proposals to the City Council to tighten loopholes in the hardship section of the rent control law.

The ***Coalition*** also has asked that the Council reduce the automatic rent increase of 6% that tenants pay every year. City officials in Elizabeth, New Jersey, recently lowered their automatic yearly increase from 6% to 4%. This reduction was based on a study of basic operating costs, including fuel, utilities, water and gas. The study concluded that costs are lower now than they were in 1981 and 1982.

"Costs are lower, but tenants are still paying the 6% automatic rent increase," said Mr. Hutchins. "It's not fair to tenants, and we can't afford it. Where will we go if rents continue to rise and we can't afford them?"

For more information call 344-7210.

In Memory of Eddie Matos

This December Eddie Matos died. All of us at the Ironbound Community Corporation, as well as many other Ironbound residents, will miss him.

Eddie believed that by working together people could make a difference. He did not just accept things as they were. If there was injustice, he spoke up against it, and worked with other people to change it. He taught us how to question and raise our voices too. Eddie believed in people and his belief lives in our continued efforts to build a safer, healthier, fairer world for our children.

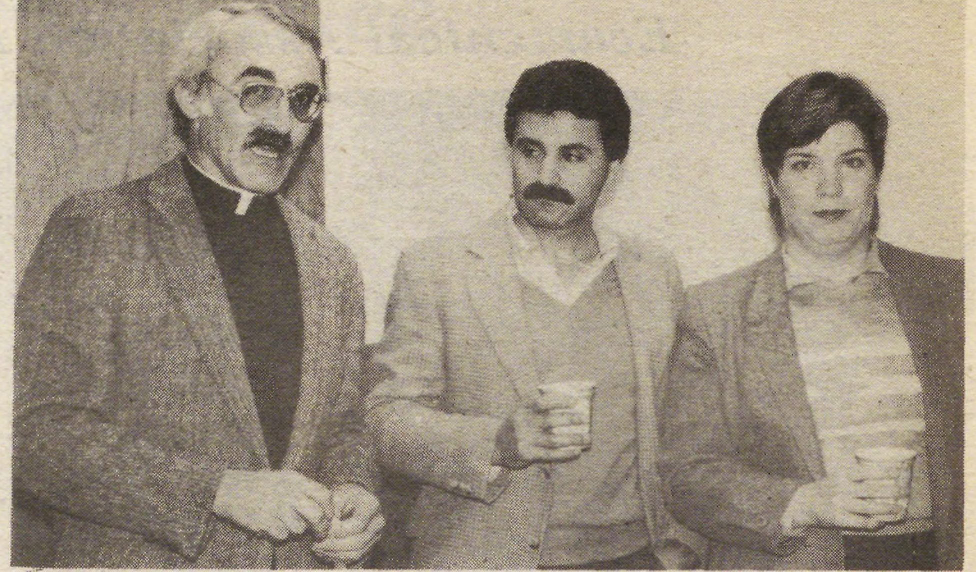
Eddie worked for the Ironbound Community Corporation from 1979 to 1981. His dedication and concern for people were obvious. Eddie was always helping somebody out.

Eddie never let his age get in the way of his desire to learn something new.

Eddie translated for the ***Ironbound Voices***. During the last years of his life, though he was not always feeling well, he never said no when we asked for help. Most important, Eddie encouraged others to get involved in important neighborhood issues.

We'll miss him.





A Sexta Missa Anual Ecumenical

A sexta missa anual ecumenical teve lugar na Igreja da Nossa Senhora de Fátima. Entre os que tiveram presentes na missa salientamos: (da esquerda para a direita) Irmã Eleanor Harker, Padre Zaccardo, Barbara Hetzel, Padre Nicholas Yuschak, o Rev. Lin Powell, Rev. David Burgess, Rev. Karen Fritz, e Rev. John Faustini.

Várias centenas de pessoas atenderam ao bonito servico religioso. O coro da Escola secundária do East Side cantou juntamente com outros coros da Igreja da Nossa Senhora de Fátima, Igreja Presberiana de S. Paulo e os cantores liturgicos Russos. Acima, Padre Pinho fala com pessoas, na recepção depois do serviço religioso.

Conferência Contra Incinerador

A luta dos residentes do Ironbound construção do queimador de lixos no seu bairro recebeu significativo suporte durante uma Conferência Eclesiástica recentemente efectuada em Newark.

A Conferência Sinais de Esperança ***(Signs of Hope)***, realizada na Igreja Baptista Bethany nos dias 16 e 17 de Novembro, reuniu 200 pessoas, representando 45 igrejas locais e 14 grupos religiosos diferentes de diversas localidades do condado do Essex. Igrejas judaicas, católicas e protestantes, assim como 40 organizações comunitárias, participaram na conferência.

Resíduos tóxicos foi um dos assuntos que os conferenciantes debateram profundamente. Um grupo de pessoas reuniu-se durante vários meses antes da conferência. O relatório que apresentou foi base para discussão e resoluções.

Dr. Charles Cobb, da Comissão de Justiça Racial da Igreja de Christo Unida, foi o principal orador da conferência realçando a posição que a Igreja deve assumir contra produtos tóxicos. "Todos nós somos afectados pelos químicos. As poucas leis que existem não são impostas. Inspecções não existem. É como se o governo dissesse que as pessoas não contam. Organizando-se, as pessoas serão alguém a quem o governo e as grandes corporações prestarão atenção."

A resolução adoptada durante a Conferência afirma:

1. Oposição à construção do queimador de lixo no local do Ironbound indicado ou em qualquer outro local do condado que seja julgado impróprio, e
2. Proposto para que o Condado institua um programa de reciclagem para o lixo sólido produzido no Condado de Essex.

300 Presentes Num Serviço Memorial

Na terça-feira, dia 4 de Dezembro, trezentas pessoas assistiram ao 4º Serviço Memorial Anual para as 4 irmãs de caridade americanas que foram assassinadas pelas tropas governamentais em El Salvador em 1981. Este Serviço foi organizado pelo "Northern N.J. Interreligious Task Force on El Salvador and Central America."

O Serviço começou com a iluminação de 4 velas - um para cada uma das irmãs de caridade e outro para o Arcebispo Oscar Romero, que foi assassinado também pelas tropas Salvadorenhas enquanto dizia a missa.

O Rev. William Sloane Coffin da igreja "Riverside Church" em Nova Yor den o sermão. "Em vez de levar a América Central ao caminho de paz, os Estados Unidos leva-a ao caminho de guerra."

"O que é que podemos fazer? A primeira coisa é falar a verdade. É injusto designar essas armas que destruiem povos inteiras como armas de paz. E injusto chamar assassinos e violadores como 'lutadores de liberdade', como a administração do Reagan faz em Nicaragua. E injusto crer que os Estados Unidos sempre tem razão e que outras nações sempre estão erradas, esquecendo o facto que esta nação foi fundada na sangue de 10 milhões de Indios e desenvolvida no suor de 40 milhões de escravos."

O Padre Henry Atkins, da capela St. Michael's na Universidade de Rutgers em New Brunswick, tambem falou. Tanto a igreja de Riverside e a capela de St. Michael's tem sido lugares de refúgio público para os immigrantes de El Salvador e Guatemala.

O Padre Atkins, o qual viven num campo de refúgio em Honduras por vários anos junto com gente Salvadorenha, disse que não foram só as 4 irmãs de caridade, senão também "50,000 ciudadões que morreram em El Salvador - mortos não no combate, mas sequestrados, torturados, ou assassinados."

"Uma quinta parte de povo Salvadorenho é agora um povo nomádico. Centenas de milhares escaparam para os Estados Unidos, só para serem deportados para enfrentarem novamente a tortura, a prisão ou a morte." (Os estados Unidos recusa reconhecer os refugiados de El Salvador como refugiados "politicos", e, em consequência, nega-lhes as visas).

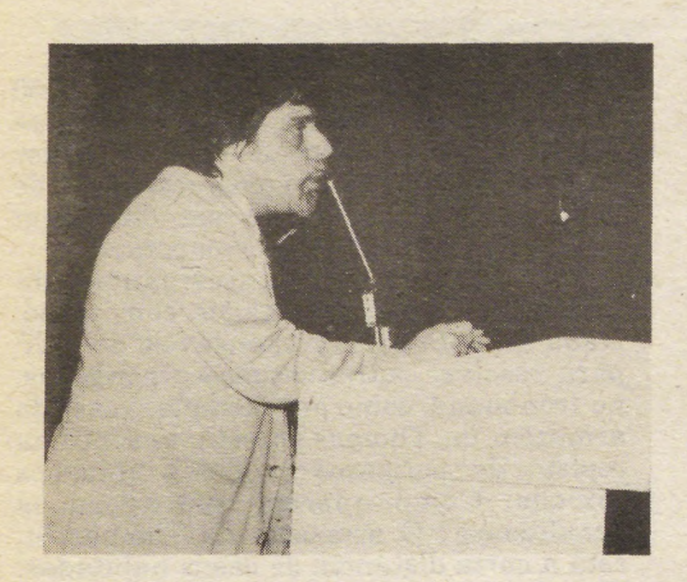
"Nada trocou em El Salvador desde a eleição do Presidente Duarte. Ele é o fantoche de Presidente Reagan. Ao mesmo tempo, a única nação do América Central que trata de dar alimento, abrigo, instrução, e ajuda médica ao seu povo - a Nicaragua - está a ser atacada pelos Estados Unidos."

"Como Cristões temos que estar prestos a protestar nas ruas se os Estados Unidos fizer uma invasão à Nicaragua. Temos que abrir as portas das nossas igrejas aos refugiados de América Centra."

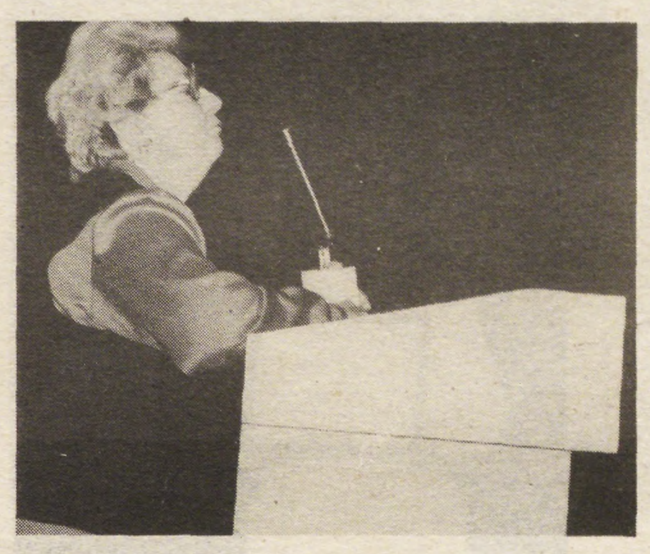
Bill Ford de Montclair, irmão de uma das irmãs de caridade assassinadas, Ita Ford, falou da visita dele ao El Salvador no Abril passado. "36 horas antes que o mundo soube da morte da minha irmã, as tropas governamentais Salvadorenhas foram para à Igreja onde ela vivia e despojou o quarto dela de todas as suas coisas pessais." Snr. Ford disse que as tropas Salvadorenhas usam uniformes e armas feitos nos Estaods Unidos. Ele visitou um campo de refugio e falou com pessoas de todas idades que foram atacados com as bambas de fósfeiro branco, produzidas nos Estados Unidos.

O Snr. Ford disse que as irmãs acreditavam no poder individual de cada pessoa para fazer cambios. "Voce e eu contamos mas a única pregunta é se vamos fazer o esforço." Ele falou na importância de contactar os nossas Senadores e representativos governamentais para eles se opoprem a ajuda às 'contras' em Nicaragua quando haverá o voto no Congresso em Março de 1985. "Cada um de nós temos uma voz e temos que exercer o nosso poder!"

O Ironbound Reage



Joe Nardone disse que o DEP ainda não limpou os quimicos tóxicos na Thomas St.



June Kruszewski falando contra o incinerador no passado dia 18 de Dezembro.



Antonio Almeida falando contra o incinerador no Essex County College.

Mais de 800 residentes do Ironbound disseram ***Não ao incinerador de lixo*** quando estiveram presentes às sessões de 17 e 18 de Dezembro no Essex County College. Incineradores de lixo são prejudiciais para a saúde do povo devido aos productos químicos tóxicos, incluindo a 'dioxin' que saem pela chaminé. Agenes do governo gastaram dois anos e centenas de milhares de dollars a tentar convencer os residentes do Ironbound que o incinerador era inofensivo.

Nancy Zak expressou os sentimentos de todos os pusentes ao afirmar: "Não seremos enganados mais vezes. Já temos bastante dioxin nas nossas ruas, e não queremos mais!"

Foram muitos os que pretenderam falar contra o incinerador pelo que a sessão teve que ser continuada por mais uma noite, pelos representantes do Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

"O DEP foi criado para proteger o ambiente, mas que ambiente está a proteger" perguntou António Almeida. "Parece que está a proteger o ambiente dos ricos, como vocês, e não dos trabalhadores como nós."

"Estamos ainda á espera pela limpeza dos locais onde temos dioxin," disse June Kruszewski. "Desejamos que sejam feitos testes à saúde dos nossos residentes. As autoridades afirmam que o dioxin não mata. Não mata **imediatamente**, mas pode provocar o cancro, especialmente em combinação com outros produtos químicos."

Os residentes do Ironbound obtiveram uma vitória ao serlhes permitido igual tempo para poderem expressar a sua opinião segundo telefonema efectuado por entidades do Estado ao **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste (ICATW).** No entanto, quando a sessão começou, Marwan Sadat, o presidente, afirmou que aqueles que apoiavam a construção do incinerador, incluindo os representantes da companhia que pretende construí-lo, podiam falar 10 minutos, enquanto que todos os restantes apenas podiam falar 5.

Um grupo de residentes protestou veementemente contra este determinação injusta e, quando Robert Cartwright continuou a falar depois de experados os 5 minutos, as autoridades do Estado chamaram a polícia e ameaçaram-no de prisão. Mas a assistência, em bicos de pés, protestou ruidosamente e houve que mudar de atitude, tendo sido eliminado o limite de tempo e o povo pôde falar tudo o que desejava.

Uma outra atitude descriminatória consistiou no facto de as entidades pró-incinerador terem sido autorizadas a colocar um dístico na parede apoiando a construçao. Tal dístico manteve-se na parede até que alguns presentes o retiraram, já que a reunião deveria ser 'neutra'.

Os que estiveram presentes na primeira reunião obrigaram as autoridades a proporcionar-lhes uma segunda reunião na noite seguinte. O **ICATW** disse as entidades oficiais presentes que muitos pretendiam estar presentes até ao fim, mas não era justo nem razoável estarem ali até a meia noite ou 2 horas da manhã porque, sendo gente de trabalho, não pretendiam preder o dia seguinte. Propôs que uma nova reunião fosse aprazada para depois da época de Natal para que todos pudessem falar.

Marwan Sadat pretendia que a reunião continuasse durante a noite e um orador já estava autorizado a falar às 2,15 h da madrugada! Houve a intenção de marcar a reunião para a manhã seguinte.

"A maioria de nós é gente de trabalho," disse Robert Cartwright, falando em nome do **ICATW**. "Nós não somos pagaos para vir até aqui e falar durante o dia, como as entidades públicas e os consultores que falaram a favor da instalação do queimador de lixo." Quando a assistência começou a gritar em apoio das afirmações de Snr. Cartwright e outros oradores, as entidades do Estado patrocinadoras da reunião decidiram marcar uma segunda sessão para a noite seguinte.

"Já temos bastante!"

Na sua alocução, Snr. Cartwright afirmou que os queimadores de lixos estao a ser postos fora de serviço nos paises europeus porquanto eles causam muita poluição e libertam 'dioxin'. "Um incinerador em Hamburg, Alemanha Ocidental, foi encontrado a libertar 700 vezes mais dioxin do que o limite considerado seguro e vós quereis construir uma instalação identica num local onde já existem os mais altos niveis de dioxin do mundo, os mais altos níveis de cancro e de doenças do coração e um teor altíssimo de doenças provocadas pelo envenenamento pelo chumbo. Queremos afirmar que já temos bastante!"

Os residentes do Ironbound estão preocupados com o dioxin que sairá do queimador de lixos e o perigo para a saúde que isso representa, sentimento que é confirmado pelo testemunho de cientistas independentes. Karen Shapiro, que trabalha com o Dr. Barry Commoner no Queens College, afirma que "Não há métodos conhecidos para evitar emissões de PCDD e PCDF dos queinadores de grandes quantidades de lixo." PCDD e PCDF são abreviaturas científicas para os dioxin.

O Dr. James Hilbert afirmou que, baseado em resultados de testes efectuados em outros incineradores, o incinerador proposto pode libertar 17,500 vezes mais dioxin do que a Autoridade do Porto prevê.

"Colocar aqui um queimador de lixos é aumentar os problemas de saúde que já existem," afirmou Beatrice Speciale, uma professora no Ironbound.

Membros de outras organizações que estão a lutar contra os queinadores de lixos apoiaram os residentes do Ironbound. Audrey Mantel, um membro de **IRATE**, um grupo comunitário que luta contra a construção de um queimador de lixos em New Brunswick, exibiu um artigo de jornal àcerca de um queimador de lixos no Westchester County de Nova Iorque. Depois da construção do queimador, verificou-se que não era possível manter os níveis de poluição permitidos. Por isso as autoridades do Estado alteraram esses níveis de forma que o incinerador pode operar. O funcionário do Estado que fez as alterações mais tarde obteve um trabalho na companhia proprietária de tal incinerador.

Eleanor Podlas, uma residente do Ironbound cuja residência se situa a menos de 300 jardas do local onde as entidades do Estado pretende construir o incinerador afirmou: "Como podem assegurar-nos de que ele será seguro? A central eléctrica nuclear da Three Mile Island foi considerada segura ao ser construída." Eleanor Podlas acrescentou que as pessoas ficarão doentes em consequência do cheiro horrível e do tráfego de camiões do lixo.

Um orador salientou que, de acordo com numeros fornecidos por entidades do Estado, pelo Ironbound passarão 3000 camiões em 6 dias por semana. Será um camião por minuto! E pode ainda ser mais!

O incinerador proposto é um dos maiores desde sempre construído preparado para 2,200 toneladas de lixo por dia.

"Temos que lutar!"

Numerosos oradores afirmaram que a construção do incinerador desencorajaria as entidades do Estado de experimentar o programa de recuperação, porquanto, para manter o incinerador em laboração, era

cont. p.8

Um Grande Discurso De Uma Pequena Criança

O seguinte discurso foi dado por uma criança de 9 anos Lisa Rego, numa conferencia publica no dia 18 de Dezembro, sobre o incinerador do lixo:

Eu sou Lisa Rego do distrito de Ironbound. Estou aqui para representar os meus direitos da minha comunidade, porque o incinerador de lixo pode ser perigoso para a nossa saúde. Estou a dizer isto, porque não quero ver pequenas crianças a crescerem com uma saúde precária em vez de uma boa saúde. Nos pessoas que vivemos no Ironbound não queremos ser usados como cobaias. E por isso digo, não queremos a construção do incinerador de lixo na nossa comunidade.

Trabalhando Para A Paz

"Se nós dispendessemos tanta energia e dinheiro com a Paz como se despende com a guerra, que maravilhosos mundo teriamos."

A Irmã Carla Barr, Directora de Hispanic Concerns na Arquidiocese de Newark, falou para um grupo de 30 professores num encontro realizado pelo ***Ironbound Peace Education Project (IPEP)***. ***Teaching Peace*** foi realizado no St. Vincent's High School no dia 13 de Novembro.

"Vocês sabiam que é mais facil para os nossos jovens increverm-se no Exéreito do que registarem-se para votar? É mais fácil pertencer ao Exército do que conseguir um empréstimo de Educação. Porquê?"

Professores poderiam assistir de recursos para aprender mais sobre recursos úteis para as suas classes.

Jantar de Spaghetti Paz no Coração

A *IPEP* tambem realizou um jantar titulado "Paz no Coração," no dia 30 de Novembro na Trinity Reformed Church, assistiram 75 pessoas.

Foram apresentados premios a alguns estudantes da escola elementar que participaram no Concurso para o poster da paz, realizado este outono. Foram vencedores:

Eddie Wingren e Luis Mendoza
de **Ironbound Community School**
Keisha Bethea e Carmen Barnes
de Project Link
Darrell Lyon, Celeste Simmons e Corey Mincey de **Blessed Sacrament**
Shakira Farrell, John Rojo, Kenya Reed, Luis Oliveira, Eduardo Alvarez, Angelica Lluminquinga, Helena Vinhas e Thomas



Angelina Lluminquinga da Ironbound Interparoquial Elementary School aceita o seu prémio.

Podovano de **Ironbound Interparochial Elementary School**

Vic De Luca do Ironbound Community Corporation falou sobre o aumento da bolsa militar e dos efeitos negativos que isso tem na nossa comunidade. David Nieves começou e foi acompanhado por todos a cantar um cantico de paz.

IPEP agrace a Roni Faulkner, Marie McErlean, Jon Dolberg, e John Dillon pelas suas ayudas. Tambem um agradecimento ao Rev. Lin Powell e à congregação da Trinity Reformed Church. E um agradecimento à Texeira's Bakery pelo lindissimo bolo da paz. Foi uma noite agradável para todos!

Não Aceitamos A Queima De Lixo

Mais de 700 residentes do Ironbound assistiram à reunião que teve lugar na igreja de nossa senhora de Fátima em 27 de Novembro para mostrarem a sua oposição à construção dum incenerador de lixo na area do Ironbound.

As pessoas aplaudiram quando os membros do **Comité do Ironbound Contra Productos Tóxicos**, cientistas e oficiais locais eleitos falaram contra o incenerador de lixo.

Karen Shapiro, uma assistente de investigação do Dr. Barry Commoner no Centro de Biologia e Sistemas Naturais da Universidade de Queens, disse, "Não há processo algum conhecido para controlar dioxina num incenerador. O unico processo de a controlar é ***não construir o incenerador***."

Ms. Shapiro diz que todos os dispositivos de engenharia com a finalidade de neutralizar a dioxina antes dela sair pela chamine não funcionam. Testes feitos em inceneradores existentes mostram que a dioxina se escapa pelas chaminés.

Este facto é especialmente importante para os residentes do Ironbound porque quando combinada com outros químicos causadores de cancro a dioxina pode atacar o sistema imune (o sistema que o corpo usa para se proteger contra doenças). Quando tal acontece, outros químicos a que o povo está exposto tornam-se mais susceptiveis de causar o cancro. O Ironbound já tem no ar muitos químicos causadores de cancro.

"Não posso acreditar que em face de todos os problemas do ambiente já existentes neste bairro, que queiram colocar um incenerador no vosso quintal," disse Ms. Shapiro. "Não faz sentido de modo algum."

Robert Cartwright da **ICATW**, disse que além dos riscos de saúde, a construção dum incenerador de lixo creará problemas de tráfego no Turnpike e para os aviões com destino ao aeroporto internacional de Newark. O Sr. Cartwright disse que a Administração do Turnpike está preocupada pois os gasés ácidos expelidos pela chamine do incenerador podem causar dano aos suportes de elevação da auto estrada. Nuvens de fumo do incinerador podem obstruir a visão dos pilotos quando aterram.

"Todos os factos mostram que não deve existir no Ironbound qualquer incenerador," disse o Sr. Cartwright.

Arnold Cohen da **ICATW** disse que o incenerador crearia um tráfego de camiões terrivel nas ruas do Ironbound, e baixaria os valores do custo das casas no bairro.

A Incinerador

necessário grande quantidade de lixo.

O Rev. Burgess, em representação de 50 igrejas e 20 organizações disse que eles se opunham à construção do queimador porque ele "põe em perigo os residentes de Newark," e apoiava, em vez disso, um programa obrigatório de recuperação.

Acrescentou que os residentes do Ironbound "estão alarmados com razao. Nada foi feito pelos responsáveis do DEP para resolver outras situações perigosas, no Ironbound, como por exemplo, o caso do armazém da Thomas Street que continua repleto de perigosos produtos químicos tóxicos. Como querem que agora os acreditemos? O armazém da Thomas St. está a curta distância de casas habitadas. Não desejamos ser uma segunda Bhopal (India) aqui na América!"

Charles Lee, falando pelos cerca de um milhão e setencentos mil membros da United Church of Christ, afirmou: "Não pensamos que seja um acidente que as áreas mais contaminadas em New Jersey se situem nos locais onde habitam as gentes mais pobres e as minorias. Onde está a lógica de cosntruir um incinerador para queimar 2.300 toneladas por dia a menos de meia milha de distancia de dois conjuntos habitacionais e que pode, em potência, colocar toneladas de dioxin e de ácido hidroclorídrico e ainda metais pesados numa área que já está martizada com alto teor de cancro e outros efeitos de produtos químicos tóxicos."

Mário Pinto, representando o Portuguese American Congress, afirmou: "**Querem construir aqui o incinerador porque esperam uma menor resistência dos seus residentes. Mas não podemos continuar a tolerar receber lixo e colocar em perigo o bem estar das nossas crianças dia após dia.**"

O 'Councilman' Henry Martinez e o 'Freeholder' do Essex County Parlavecchio exprimiram a sua oposição à construção do incinerador.

Joseph Nardone, que vive anexo ao armazém da Thomas St., criticou o DEP por ter falhado a limpeza dos produtos químicos ali existentes. "O DEP não está a proteger as gentes da nossa área."

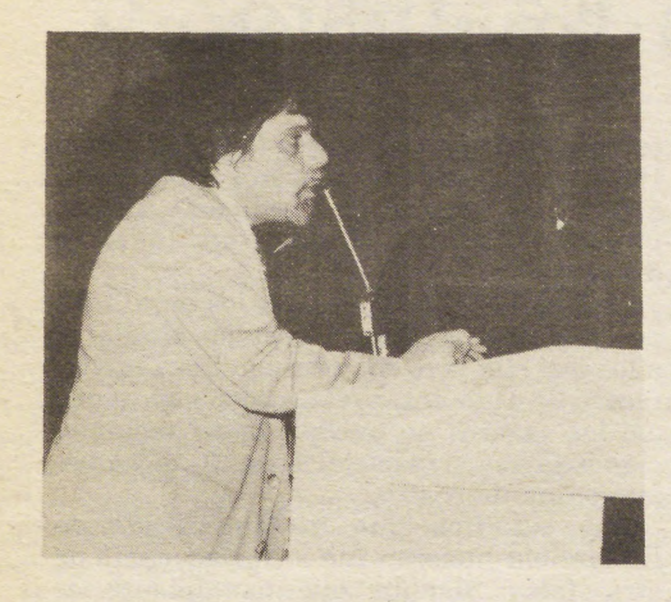
Célia Pedro, mãe de três filhos, esclareceu que "já foi sujeita a três operações por causa do meio ambiente. Com os químicos que nos rodeiam, o meio ambiente está a matar-me. Minha filha, pergunta-me: Mamã, porque é que querem matar-nos?"

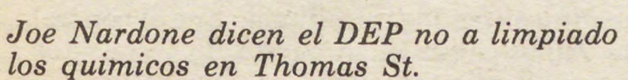
José Cunha afirmou: "A Autoridade do Porto está a manipular a Cidade de Newark e já não cumpriu o que nos prometeu há três anos quando disse que iria colocar dispositivos à prova de som na Escola de S. Benedicto. A promessa está ainda por cumprir."

Katherine Dresdner esclareceu que a companhia que pretende construir o incinerador já tem um ahistória na qual há problemas contra o meio ambiente através da América.

Diniz Cabadas, resumindo os sentimentos de muitos residentes do Ironbound, afirmou: "Temos que lutar pela nossa vida e pela saúde das nossas familias. Não desejamos ser obrigados a sair do nosso bairro, o bairro que construimos com o nosso suor e as nossas lágrimas."

Ironbound Luchando!





Joe Nardone dicen el DEP no a limpiado los quimicos en Thomas St.



June Kruszewski hablando en contra del incinerador de basura Dec. 18.



Antonio Almeida hablando en contra del incinerador a Essex County College.

Más de 800 residentes de Ironbound dijeron ***No Incinerador de Basura*** cuando ellos asistieron a una audiencia publica, llevado a cabo el 17 y 18 de Diciembre, en el Essex County College.

Los incineradores de basura dañan la salud de la gente por los tóxicos quimicos, incluyendo el dioxin, quien proviene de las chimeneas. Oficiales del govierno han gastado 2 años y miles de pesos tratando de convencer a los residentes de Ironbound que el incinerador era seguro-sano.

Nancy Zak habló por todos presente cuando ella dijo, "Nosotros no somos tontos nada más. Nosotros ya hemos tenido dioxin en nuestras calles, y no queremos más ninguno."

"El DEP está supuesto a proteger el ambiente, pero que ambiente ellos estan protejiendo?" dijo Antonio Almeida. "Parece que ellos estan protejiendo el ambiente de la gente rica, pero no el de la gente que trabaja como nosotros."

"Estamos esperando todavia por la limpieza del dioxin que todavia está sin limpiar," dijo June Kruszewski. "Queremos examenes de salud para todos los residentes. Oficiales nos han dicho que el dioxin no mata. Bueno, dioxin no mata en seguida, pero puede promover el cancer, especialmente en combinación con otras quimicas."

Residentes de Ironbound ganaron una batalla cuándo ellos forsaron el DEP a permitir gente ordinaria y trabajadores a hablar al tiempo igual. El Sr. Marwan Sadat, el presidente de la junta, anunció que oficiales publicos y otros que respaldaron el construcción del incinerador de basura, incluyendo la compañia que quiere construirlo, fueron permitidos hablar por 10 minutos. Todos los demas solamente 5 minutos.

Un numero de residentes enojados estuvieron hablando más tarde de en contra del tiempo limitado que le dejaron hablar. Cuando Robert Cartwright continuó hablando aún cuando los cinco minutos se le terminaron, los oficiales del estado llamaron la policía y lo amenazaron con arrestarlo. El grupo de Ironbound se levantaron gritando en protesta. Oficiales del estado luego cambiaron de idea, y el tiempo limitado lo suspendieron y la gente pudieron decir lo que ellos quisieron decir.

Residentes de Ironbound tambien forsaron al estado a celebrar una segunda audiencia por la noche. El **ICATW** le dijeron a los oficiales del estado que mucha gente que trabajan asistieran a la audiencia, y que no seria justo hacer que la gente estuvieran hasta la media noche o hasta las dos de la mañana. **ICATW** pidio que se hiciera otra audiencia después de los dias festivos de manera que todo el mundo pudiera hablar. Sr. Sadat dijo que la audiencia podia durar toda la noche. Uno de los que hiba hablar le dieron turno para las 2:15 en la mañana! Los oficiales del estado luego trataron de reorganizar la audiencia para la mañana siguiente.

"La mayoria de nosotros trabajamos dijo Robert Cartwright, hablando por **ICATW.** "A nosotros no nos van a pagar por venir acá arriba y hablar todo el dia, como los oficiales publicos, y consultantes que han hablado a favor del incinerador." Cuando la gran multidud gritó apoyando a Sr. Cartwright y el resto que habló, el estado estuvo de acuerdo en otra audiencia la proxima noche.

"Ya tenemos bastante!"

En su discurso, Sr. Cartwright dijo que los incineradores de basura han sido cerrados en pueblos de Europa porque han causado tanta contaminación, y descartado el dioxin. "Un incinerador en Hamburg, el oeste de Alemania, fué encontrado que daba 700 veces más el dioxinq ue el limite seguro. Tu quieres poner este incinerador en el vecindario que ya tiene el alto nivel de dioxin en el mundo, el alto nivel de cancer y enfermedades del corazon, y el alto nivel de plomo veneno. Decimos ***ya tenemos bastante!***"

"Poner un incinerador de basura aqui, va a añadir problemas de salud que ya nosotros tenemos," dijo Beatrice Speciale, una maestra de Ironbound.

Uno de los que habló, dijo que hay que tener en cuenta que de acuerdo a las figuraciones del propio estado, habran 3000 camiones a la semana, 6 dias a la semana atravesando Ironbound para vaciar sus basuras. "Eso es un camión por minuto," el dijo. Pueden ser más.

La propuesta incinerador de basura es uno de los más grandes nunca construidos - más de 2200 toneladas de basura al dia.

Un gran numero de los que hablaron dijeron que esa construcción del incinerador de basura puede disgustar al Estado de tratar un programa **recycling** en orden de mantener el incinerador adelante, ellos tendran que continuar alimentando el incinerador con basura.

Rev. David Burgess representando 50 iglesias, dijo que los residentes de Ironbound "que tienen razón de estar alarmados. Nada ha sido hecho por los oficiales del DEP acerca de otras peligrosas situaciones en Ironbound ocmo el almacen de la calle Thomas, que continua siendo lleno de peligrosos quimicos toxicos, y ahora los mismos oficiales quieren que le tengamos la misma confianza. El almacen de la calle Thomas está a solo pulgados de las casas de gente. No tenemos ningun deseo de convertirnos en otro Bhopal (India) aquí en America."

Los residentes de Ironbound fueron respaldados por otras iglesias.

Mario Pinto, representando el Congreso de Portugueses Americanos, dijo, "Ellos quieren poner el incinerador de basura aqui porque ellos esperan menos resistencia de los residentes. Pero nosotros no vamos a tolerar que el bienestar de nuestros hijos este en constante peligro todos los dias."

El Consejar Henry Martinez y el Essex County Freeholder Parlavecchio hablaron en contra el incinerador de basura.

Jose Cunha dijo, "La Autoridad de Puertos está manipulando la ciudad de Newark. La Autoridad de Puerto ya ha roto sus promesas a nosotros. Tres años atrás ellos estaban supuesto a poner a prueba de ruidos la escuela St. Benedict's y todavia no han hecho nada."

Katherine Dresdner dijo que la compañia que va a construir el incinerador tiene historia de tener problemas por toda la nación en los ambientes.

Diniz Cabadas sumarizó el sentir de muchos residentes de Ironbound, cuando dijo, "Nosotros tenemos que luchar por nuestras vidas y nuestras familias y su salud. No queremos ser forzados a dejar nuestro vecindario, el vecindario que hemos construido con nuestro sudor y con lagrimas."

Las Palabras Grandes De Una Niña Pequeña

El siguiente discurso fué dado por Lisa Rego, una niña de 9 años en una reunión pública sobre el quemador de basura el 18 de diciembre:

Yo soy Lisa Rego del distrito de Ironbound. Estoy aquí para mantener en alto los derechos de mi comunidad porque el quemador podría ser peligroso para nuestra salud. Yo digo esto porque no quiero ver los niños pequeños creciendo con salud pobre en vez de buena salud. Y nosotros, gente de Ironbound, no queremos ser usados como cerdos. Y por eso, yo digo que no queremos la construcción del quemador de basura en nuestra comunidad.

GRATIS!

Examenes de la Presion de Sangre

Martes

19 de febrero
19 de marzo

12:30 - 1:30

Centro de Información
de Ironbound
95 Fleming Ave.



Angelina Lluminquinga de la escuela elemental Interparochial de Ironbound acepta el premio.

Trabajando Por La Paz

"Si nosotros ponemos tanto dinero y energía por la paz como lo hacemos por la guerra que mundo tan maravilloso sería."

La Hermana Carla Barr, directora de los asuntos hispanos en la Arquidiocesis de Newark, estuvo hablando a un grupo de 30 maestros en un taller que fué dirigido por el ***Projecto de la Educación y la Paz de Ironbound. Enseñando Paz*** se llevó a cabo en Nov. 13 en la escuela superior San Vincente.

"¿Sabes tu que es mas fácil para nuestros jóvenes inscribirse para las fuerzas armadas que registrarse para votar? Es mas fácil unirse al ejército que hacer un préstamo para educación. ¿Porque?"

Maestros pudieron atender uno de cuatro talleres de recursos, para aprender mas sobre recursos disponibles y usarlos en el salón de clase.

La Paz en la Tierra

El ***Projecto de Educación por la Paz de Ironbound (IPEP)*** celebró además una cena de spaghetti "Paz en la Tierra" en Nov. 30 en la Iglesia Reformada Trinidad. Asistieron 75 personas.

Premios fueron dados a estudiantes de escuela elemental quienes éste otoño participaron en el concurso de carteles por la paz. Los estudiantes ganadores fueron:

Luis Mendoza y Eddie Wingren, de la Escuela Comunidad de Ironbound

Carmen Barnes y Keisha Bethea, de la escuela Project Link

Celeste Simmons, Darrell Lyon y Corey Mincey de la escuela Blessed Sacrament

John Rojo, Edward Alvarez, Helena Vinhas, Shakira Ferrell, Angelica Lluminquinga, Thomas Padovano, Luis Oliveira, y Kenya Reed de la escuela Ironbound Interparochial.

Vic De Luca de la **Corporación de la Comunidad de Ironbound** habló sobre los aumentos en el presupuesto militar y el efecto negativo que tiene nuestra comunidad. David Nieves dirigió para que cada uno cantara, "Deja que halla paz en la tierra y deja que empieze por mi."

IPEP desea agradecer a Roni Faulkner, Marie McErlean, Jon Dolberg y John Dillon por su ayuda. Además gracias al Reverendo Lin Powell y a la congregación de la Iglesia Reformada Trinidad. Y gracias a la repostéria Texeiras por el precioso bizcocho "paz". Esto fué una tarde agradable para todos.

Aumento Automatico De Renta: ¿Que Es Justo?

¿Cuán justo es el 6% de aumento automatico de renta que los inquilinos que viven en edificios con control de renta pagan todos los años? Esto fué el topico del programa llevado acabo en el Colegio de Leyes Seton Hall. El programa fué auspiciado por el ***Coalition To Save Rent Control*** en Newark.

Milton Zisman, de los Contadores para el Intereses del Publico (Accountants for the Public Interest), Iris Brown, presidente de la Asociación de Inquilinos de Elizabeth y Denise Mayor, el presidente de la Asociación de Inquilinos de Bloomfield hablo sobre el estudios que ellos hicieron en Elizabeth y Bloomfield.

"Todos los años los caseros de edificios con control de renta reciven un aumento automatico de renta. En algunos pueblos es el 5%, en Newark es el 6%. Esto esta supuesto syudar a los caseros pagar por el costo de operación de sus edificios.

"Comenzamos nuestro estudio en Elizabeth en el 1981," Sr. Zisman dijo. "Lo que hicimos fué mirar al costo de operaciones basicos para ver cuanto estaban aumentanto en realidad. Lo que descubrimos es que el costo de operaciones no esta aumentanto tanto como el aumento automatico de renta."

El estudio hecho por el Sr. Zisman y la Sra. Brown en Elizabeth mostró que el costo de operaciones subio 3.81% en el 1980, y solo 1.57% en el 1981. En el 1982 el costo bajo un promedio de 3.47%. En el 1983 los costos subierón al 3.19%. Durante todo este tiempo inquilinos en edificios con rentas controladas en Newark han estado pagando 6% de aumento automatico en sus rentas a sus caseros todos los años. Lo que significa que los caseros han estado haciendo grandes ganancias de dinero.

Iris Brown, quien hizo los averigraciones para los estudios en Elizabeth, colectó la información sobre 4 costos basicos - electiridad, aguaducto y alcantarillado, gas y aceite. Para adquirir información sobre presias de electricidad, la Sra. Brown fué al Public Service. Para la información del costo de agua se comunicó con el departamento del agua. También adquirió información de la compañia del gas y de las compañias de aceite. La Sra. Brown puso todas las informaciones juntas en forma grafica por cado uno de los costos y despues se los presentó al concejal de la ciudad de Elizabeth.

Mientras el gas mostró un aumento desde el 1981, el costo del aceite, agua y electricidad todos bajaron rapidamente durante el 1982 y 1983 y despues aumentaron levemente en el 1984. Actualmente estos costos son menos que lo que era en el 1982. Aun asi, los caseros continúan aclamando que estan perdiendo dinero, pero las figuras dicen una historia diferente.

La Sra. Brown sugerió que los inquilinos de otros pueblos hagan estudios similares a los que ella hizo y continuen llevando un record de cada uno de estos costos para que asi los caseros no puedan hacer reclamaciones falsas al consejal de la ciudad sobre aumentos de costos.

Los estudios que los inquilinos de Bloomfield hicieron fué a consecuencia de otra falsa disputa que usualmente es usada contra los inquilinos - que el control de renta cuasa el aumento de impuestos (taxes) a la propiedad.

"Todo los años cuando era el tiempo de votar por el aumento automatico de renta y la ley de control de renta, oiamos de parte de nuestras oficiales de la ciudad que el control de renta estaba causando aumento en los impuestos a los dueños de casa. Decidimos averiguar si esto era cierto," dijo Denise Mayor.

"Lo que averiguamos fue que se había un leve aumento (3.1%) en los impuestos por dueño de casa. Pero habia una explociń a esto industrias estaban mudandase fuera de Bloomvield, así que habia menos negocios pagando impuestos. Los impuestos estaban aumentando para cubrir los altos salarios administrativos en el prosupuesto de la ciudad."

"Nuestro estudio le dio a nuestra organización la confidencia de irnos frente al consejal de la ciudad y quejarnos. Sabiamos tanto como muchos de los miembros del consejal sobre el aumento de impuestos y lo que causaba los mismos para el tiempo que terminamos. Cuando el tiempo de discutir control de renta llegó al consejal de la ciudad y les presentamos nuestro estudio, nadie vivo con la falsa disputa de cambiar impuestos. Y el consejal voto para continuar el control de renta y bajar el aumento automatico de renta de 6% a un 5%."

"Hablamos a la prensa de nuestro estudio, y ellos publicaron la información asi que el consejal de la ciudad vio que habiamos hecho un trabajo grande, y teniamos algo impresionante y positivo para presentar."

La ***Coalition To Save Rent Control*** la cuáal organizaó el programa, esta forma da de inquilinos, la comunidad, iglesias y grupos de trabajadores de la Ciudad de Newark que estan trabajando para mantener las rentas soportables.

Residentes Organizados Para Mejorar Sus Casas

La Associación de Inquilinos de Aspen Riverpark Apartamentos en Fleming Ave. se esta organizando para resolver alguno de los problemas en el edificio.

Los apartamentos Aspen Riverpark abrio en el invierno de 1981. La compañia Aspen, arreglo estos apartamentos usando dinero del goveirno federal. La compañia Aspen, no se preocupa acerca de construir buenas casas para que la gente viva en ellos. El ideal de ellos es el de hacer dinero. Ellos usaron los materiales mas baratos que encontraron, y ahora los inquilinos son los que sufreu.

Desde los principios de ese invierno los inquilinos se mudaron para alli, han tenido problemas por falta de calefacción y por falta de agua caliente. Aspen, puso en esos edificios boilas usadas que no trabajan. En la reciente reunión de los inquilinos, algunas personas dijeron que ellos no tuvieron ni calefacción ni agua caliente varias veces en el mes pasado. Otros dijeron que ellos no tienen calefacción durante los fines de semana.

Tambien tienen otras problemas.

En una sección del edificio, la puerta de las escaleras no tiene llave, facilitando la entrada a personas que no viven alli. "Simplemente es un lugar sin seguridad para nosotros y nuestras familias," dijo Eugenia Sanchez. "Nosotros queremos una buena cerradura para esa puerta. Nosotros no nos queremos preocupar al pensar quien estará en el edificio. Esta es nuestra casa y nosotros queremos que sea segura."

El sistema de sitofono, no estan funcionando en algunas secciones del edificio, por tanto la gente no sabe si viene una visita o si un criminal esta tratando entrar.

Residentes estan preocupados acerca de los guardas de seguridad en el edificio. Algunos dicen que no han visto a los guardas patrullando su sección y que los guardas no responden cuando los llaman. Pero los residentes tambien piensan que en algunas situaciones, la policia local debia ser llamada. La Associación de Inquilinos planea reunirse con el capitan local muy pronto.

Algunos inquilinos tienen serios problemas de plomeria, como goteras las cuales dañan los muebles y apartamentos. Esta clase, de problema puede ser tambien debido a la construcción tan pobre.

Un inquilino que trabaja se dice que el salon de la lavanderia no estan abiertos de 7 A.M. a 7 P.M. como era supuesto. "Yo me levanto temprano para lavar mi ropa y encuentro el salon cerrado." Esto hace la vida mas dificil para la clase trabajadora.

La Asociación de Inquilinos esta enviando una carta al manager y al dueño para que respondan a estas problemas. Ellos planean reunisen otra vez en enero.



Bishop Joseph Francis del Arquidiocese catolico de Newark hablando en el "Letrero de Esperanza" conferencia.

Conferencia En Contra Del Incinerador

La lucha de residentes en Ironbound en contra de la construcción de un enorme incinerador de basura en su vecindario recibieron un fuerte respaldo de una gran conferencia celebrada en una iglesia en Newark.

'Los Letreros De Conferencia de Esperanza' ***(Signs of Hope Conference)*** celebrada en la iglesia Bethany Baptist en Nov. 16 y 17 trajo a juntar 200 personas, representando 45 iglesias locales y 14 grupos de religiones diferentes de pueblos rurales y de los suburbios de Essex County. Judios, Catolicos y iglesias Protestantes, igual que 40 organizaciones de la comunidad, participaron en la conferencia.

Desperdicios toxicos fué uno de los cuatro topicos que la conferencia miró detenenidamente. La tarea de combate los desperdicios de basura son miembros rurales y urbanos, se a reunido por varios meses antes de la conferencia.

Dr. Charles Cobb, de la iglesia Unida de Christo Comisiona Para Justicia Racial, quién dio la mayor dirección en la conferencia, enfatizó la necesidad de la iglesia en envolverse con los desperdicios toxicos cuando dijo, "Todos nosotros estamos en peligro de quimicas que nada más han sido abandonadas. Las leyes limitadas que existen son muy debiles. El monitor es casi escaso. Es como si nuestro gobierno dijera que la gente no importa. La gente organizada es la gente que el gobierno y las grandes compañias oyen."

La resolución en contra del incinerador de basura pasó por el ***Signs of Hope Conference*** dijo: Nosotros estamos firmes y resueltos:

1. la oposoción al incinerador de basura cerca de Ironbound y otra parte similar en el Condado y
2. proponer que en vez de el Condado desarrollar un programa de 'recycling' para manejar la mayor parte de Essex County desperdicios solidos de productos

Refugiados Salvadoreños Relatan Su Historia

Un programa especial acerca de El Salvador fué presentado recientemente por **El Comité Pro Refugiados Salvadoreños de Newark** en la Iglesia San Agustin. Uno de los oradores relató la situación de los Salvadoreños quienes han dejado su país para venir a los Estados Unidos, y a otros paises.

"Yo dejé mi país porque los escuadrones de la muerte me hicieron imposible vivir en paz. Tu nunca sabias cuando ellos vendrían a secuestrarte o matarte a ti o tu familia a medianoche." (Los escuadrones de la muerte en El Salvador han asesinado miles de Salvadoreños incluyendo 4 monjas Norteamericanas quienes trabajan para los pobres. Los escuadrones de la muerte han sido relacionados directamente con las fuerzas armadas salvadoreñas).

"Yo era un estudiante en mi país. Vine aquí hace 5 años. Yo y muchos otros tuvimos que dejar nuestras familias y nuestras casas."

"La otra gran amenaza fueron los bombardeos por parte del gobierno. En 1983, hubo 127 bombardeos. Desde Enero a Agosto de este año han habido 167 bombardeos, usando aviones y bombas enviadas por los Estados Unidos. Ellos estan usando bombas de napalm que puden destruir areas enteras del tamaño de un estadio de football. Los químicos contaminan el ambiente, de manera que todo lo que tiene vida es aniquilado, y la tierra no puede ser usada de nuevo. Los rios son envenenados, y todos los animales y la gente en esa area son asesinados. El gobierno tambien está usando 'bombas de fragmentación' para destruir casas, pueblos enteros y por consiguiente, toda la gente que alli habita."

"En 1981, 700 campesinos fueron masacrados por las tropas gubernamentales, quienes estaban tratando de cruzar un rio. Habían muchos niños y ancianos. Con esta historia triste se pude decir que todo El Salvador está teñido en sangre."

El orador dijo que los refugiados Salvadoreños en los Estados Unidos están en peligro de ser deportados. "Nosotros hemos venido acá porque no pudimos soportar la guerra y represión del gobierno. Nos consideramos refugiados politicos. Pero los Estados Unidos no quiere admitir que hay guerra en nuestro pais y por eso dicen que somos refugiados económicos. Nos quieren enviar de regreso a El Salvador, donde seremos asesinados por los escuadrones de la muerte y por el gobierno.

(Al mismo tiempo que ellos estan negandonos refugio politico aqui, son ellos mismos quienes estan aceptando refugiados de Cuba, Viet Nam, Poland, Rusia, etc. y dandoles asistencia para que consigan casa y trabajos. Ellos aceptan esta clase de refugiados porque hace quedar mal o los paises comunistas. Pero ellos no aceptan a los refugiados Salvadoreños porque ellos no quieren admitir que en nuestro país hay un guerra revolucionaria en contra de una dictadura la cual esta protegiendo los intereses económicos de los Estados Unidos en la región).

El orador dijo la historia de un Salvadoreño residente en Newark quien recientemente fué apresado por el departamento de inmigración y está en peligro de ser deportado. Este hombre fué un soldado en el ejercito salvadoreño quien desertó debido a las atrociadades cometidas contra el pueblo. El vió poblaciones enteras ser quemadas cuando él tenía solo 16 años, todos los pobladores murieron. Este hombre probablemente era un blanco de los oficiales de inmigración porque había estado hablando publicamente acerca de los asesinatos que el ejercito salvadoreño comete. "Con toda seguridad, si este hombre es deportado, él será asesinado cuando llegue a El Salvador," dijo un miembro del **Comité Pro Refugiados Salvadoreños.** Este grupo colectó un dinero para ayudar a pagar la fianza para ese hermano salvadoreño en carcelado.

El **Comité Pro Refugiados Salvadoreños** se formó despues de que el Arzobispo Oscar Romero, quien era un crítico del gobierno en El Salvador, fuera asesinado por tropas del gobierno mientras se encontraba celebrando misa en la capital.

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